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Docket No. 29284/481

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS

Hiroyuki FUЛТА et al..

SERIAL NO.

09/265,373

FILED

March 10, 1999

FOR

MULTIPLEX CONVERSION UNIT ·

GROUP ART UNIT

2665

EXAMINER

P.B. Nguyen

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated November 22, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows. Please note that the original due date was February 22, 2003, which was a Saturday, therefore this response is being done so in a timely manner.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add new claims 3-4 as follows:

3 (NEW) The multiplex conversion unit according to claim 1, wherein said multiplex conversion unit is applicable to one of Uni-directional Path Switched Ring (UPSR) and Terminal MUX (TM) networks by selectively combining said four types of circuit packs.